

DESCRIPTION OF *AGROMYZA PHASEOLI*, A NEW SPECIES OF LEAF-MINING FLY.

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*(Communicated, with a Note thereon, by W. W. Froggatt, F.L.S.)**AGROMYZA PHASEOLI*, n.sp.

Black, including the halteres. Front on the sides opaque, the triangle highly polished, almost reaching the lower end of the front. Body strongly tinged with blue, polished, not light coloured pruinose on any of its parts; thorax bearing two pairs of dorso-central macrochaetae, destitute of acrostichals. Wings hyaline, costa strongly thickened beyond the apex of the first vein, small crossvein distinctly beyond the middle of the discal cell, hind crossvein at three-fourths of its length beyond the small, apex of third vein midway between the apices of the second and fourth veins. None of the tibiae nor of the tarsal joints noticeably dilated or swollen. Length, 1.5 mm.

Hab.—Gosford District, N.S.W.; described from five specimens received from W. W. Froggatt, Sydney, Australia, under the name of French bean fly pest.

Among an exchange collection of economic entomological specimens sent to Dr. Howard, Chief of the Entomological Division of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, U.S.A., I forwarded some specimens of an undetermined leaf-mining dipteran, which last year proved a most destructive pest to people growing French beans in the Gosford district, N.S.W.

In company with the Secretary of the Agricultural and Horticultural Association of Gosford, I visited the infested gardens early in April. Four or five gardens about Erina and Wamberal were so badly attacked that all the plants were destroyed before

they commenced to bear. I carefully examined about five acres where every bean stalk was more or less infested. The flies deposited their eggs on the outer surface of the main stem, just about the ground. The maggots, on hatching out, burrowed under the epidermis, some working upwards towards the foliage and others under ground towards the roots. As many as thirty or forty pupæ and larvæ could be obtained from a large plant when the skin was all discoloured, split, and rusty red, the plant soon dying from the injuries. This pest had not been noticed before by any of the gardeners, though several of them have been growing French beans on the same land for the last five years.—W.W.F.